

***Remarks***

Reconsideration of this Application is respectfully requested.

Upon entry of the foregoing amendment, claims 1-16 are pending in the application, with claims 1 and 12 being the independent claims. By this amendment, Applicant seeks to amend claims 1 and 12. Claims 17 - 20 are sought to be cancelled without prejudice to or disclaimer of the subject matter therein. These changes are believed to introduce no new matter, and their entry is respectfully requested.

Based on the above amendment and the following remarks, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider all outstanding objections and rejections and that they be withdrawn.

**Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 102**

Claims 1-4, 6, 8-14, and 16-19 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by CS4205 (CrystalClear Audio Codec '97 product information document, hereinafter "CrystalClear"). Claims 17-19 have been cancelled, thus rendering their rejection moot. Applicants traverse the rejection of claims 1-4, 6, 8-14, and 16 because the cited reference fails to disclose, teach, or suggest all of the features of the claimed invention.

For example, CrystalClear fails to disclose, teach, or suggest a method for communicating audio including transmitting a number of synchronization markers on a second signal line, each marker being representative of a timing of one audio information segment, wherein only a first signal line and the second signal line are used to communicate audio, as recited in claims 1 and 12. These features are discussed, for

example, in Applicants' specification in paragraphs 0026 to 0028, and are illustrated in FIG. 2

By contrast, CrystalClear requires at least three wires for proper audio communication, not only two as recited in Applicants' claims. The CS4205 audio codec communicates with two main components: a DC '97 controller and stereo ADCs/DACs (see figure 16). As stated in CrystalClear, the DC '97 (also known as the Digital AC '97) controller "is responsible for all communications between the CS4205 and the remainder of the system" (see section 2, page 13). And as stated in CrystalClear, "all communication with the CS4205 is established with a 5-wire digital interface to the controller called the AC-link" (see section 2.1, page 13). That is, in CrystalClear, five lines are present for communication. This is illustrated in figure 7. Also, "all clocking for the serial communication is synchronous to the BIT\_CLK," and the "BIT\_CLK is generated by the primary audio codec and is used to clock the controller and any secondary audio codecs" (see section 2.1, page 13).

More specifically, CrystalClear teaches use of a five line digital interface between the CS4205 and the DC '97 controller, and at least three of these wires carrying different data are necessary for proper transmission. The following three wires are necessary (see section 4, page 19, figure 14):

- (1) **BIT\_CLK**: Because the CS4205 audio codec generates its own clock signal and all communication is synchronous with this clock signal, the CS4205 audio codec must transmit this clock signal, BIT\_CLK, to all relevant components.
- (2) **SYNC**: The SYNC line is necessary to indicate the type of data being sent over SDATA\_OUT or SDATA\_IN.

(3) **SDATA OUT / SDATA IN**: Necessary to transmit the audio data.

Figure 14 illustrates the serial port timing during both serial data output and input frames as noted in the first paragraph of section 4.1 and the first paragraph of section 4.2.

If a future Office Action rejects claims 1 and 12, Applicants respectfully request that the Office Action specifically point out in the cited reference a method for communicating audio including transmitting a number of synchronization markers on a second signal line, each marker being representative of a timing of one audio information segment, wherein only a first signal line and the second signal line are used to communicate audio.

It is respectfully pointed out that anticipation can only be established by a single prior art reference that discloses each and every element of the claimed invention. RCA Corp. v. Applied Digital Data Systems, Inc., 730 F.2d 1440 (Fed. Cir. 1984). Therefore, because the cited reference fails to recite each and every element of Applicants' invention, as recited in claims 1 and 12, claims 1 and 12 are not anticipated by the cited references and are therefore allowable.

Claims 2-4, 6, and 8-11 depend from claim 1 and claims 13-14, and 16 depend from claim 12. Therefore claims 2-4, 6, 8-11, 13-14, and 16 are allowable at least for the reasons claims 1 and 12 are allowable, and for the specific feature recited therein.

**Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 103**

Claims 5, 15, and 20 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over CrystalClear in view of U.S. Patent No. 7,088,398 to Wolf et al. (hereinafter "Wolf"). Claim 20 has been cancelled, thus rendering its rejection moot. Wolf fails to overcome the deficiencies of CrystalClear relative to claims 1 and 12,

described above. Additionally, claims 5 and 15 depend from claims 1 and 12 respectively, and are allowable at least for the reasons claims 1 and 12 are allowable. For at least these reasons and further in view of their own features, claims 5 and 15 are patentable over the combination of CrystalClear and Wolf. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the ground of rejection is therefore respectfully requested.

Claim 7 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 (a) as being unpatentable over CrystalClear in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,006,287 to Wakazu (hereinafter "Wakazu"). Claim 7 depends ultimately from claim 1. Wakazu does not overcome all of the deficiencies of CrystalClear relative to claim 1, described above. For at least these reasons and further in view of their own features, claim 7 is patentable over the combination of CrystalClear and Wakazu. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the ground of rejection is therefore respectfully requested.

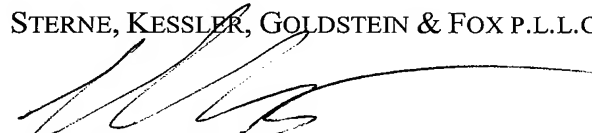
### ***Conclusion***

All of the stated grounds of objection and rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. Applicants therefore respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider all presently outstanding objections and rejections and that they be withdrawn. Applicants believe that a full and complete reply has been made to the outstanding Office Action and, as such, the present application is in condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes, for any reason, that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number provided.

Prompt and favorable consideration of this Amendment and Reply is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Theodore A. Wood', with a long, sweeping horizontal line extending to the right.

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